

Claims

1.-8. (canceled)

9. (new) An electromechanical switching device, comprising:
two fixed contacts,
two movable contact elements each configured to interact
with the fixed contacts; and
a housing comprising a mounting side, wherein the housing
viewed from above the mounting side is subdivided into first
and second housing areas each adjoining a lengthwise side of
the housing, wherein one of the movable contact elements and
the associated fixed contact are located in each housing area,
each housing area having a narrow partial housing area and an
adjoining broad partial housing area, wherein the broad partial
housing area of the first housing area is arranged adjacent to
the narrow partial housing area of the second housing area, and
the narrow partial housing area of the first housing area is
arranged adjacent to the broad partial housing area of the
second housing area, wherein the two movable contact elements
are arranged and configured to be actuated by a first
respectively second actuation force, the first and second
actuation forces having opposing directions.

10. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 9,
wherein the two housing areas are formed in an identical way
but are mirrored around a geometrical vertical axis in the
housing.

11. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 9,
wherein at least one housing area contains an immediate-release
actuator.

12. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 10,

wherein at least one housing area contains an immediate-release actuator.

13. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 11, wherein a width of the immediate-release actuator is at least as large as half of a width of the housing.

14. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 12, wherein a width of the immediate-release actuator is at least as large as half of a width of the housing.

15. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 11, wherein the immediate-release actuator comprises a coil with a round cross-section.

16. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 13, wherein the immediate-release actuator comprises a coil with a round cross-section.

17. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 9, wherein at least one housing area contains a delayed-release actuator.

18. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 10, wherein at least one housing area contains a delayed-release actuator.

19. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 11, wherein at least one housing area contains a delayed-release actuator.

20. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 13, wherein at least one housing area contains a delayed-release actuator.

21. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 15, wherein at least one housing area contains a delayed-release actuator.

22. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 9, wherein the housing comprises more than two housing areas.

23. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 10, wherein the housing comprises more than two housing areas.

24. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 11, wherein the housing comprises more than two housing areas.

25. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 9, wherein the housing areas contain different circuit arrangements.

26. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 10, wherein the housing areas contain different circuit arrangements.

27. (new) The switching device in accordance with claim 11, wherein the housing areas contain different circuit arrangements.

28. (new) An electromechanical switching device with two movable contact elements, which each interact with a fixed contact, with a housing featuring a fixing side of a width, which, viewed from above the fixing side, is subdivided into two housing areas each adjoining one of the lengthwise sides, in which one of the movable contact elements as well as the associated fixed contact are located in each case, wherein each housing area has a narrow partial housing area and adjoining

this a broad partial housing area, with the broad partial housing area of the first housing area being adjacent to the narrow partial housing area of the second housing area and the narrow partial housing area of the first housing area being adjacent to the broad partial housing area of the second housing area.